

CDC in Haiti



The Center for Global Health and Prevention (CDC) Haiti office opened in 2002 and focused on preventing the transmission of HIV/AIDS, providing care and treatment to those already infected, increasing laboratory and strategic information capacity, and building health care infrastructure.



Staff

CDC office (physical presence)
9 U.S. Assignees
72 Locally Employed

At a Glance

Population: 10,573,000
Per capita income: \$1,710
Life expectancy at birth
women/men: 65/61 yrs
Infant mortality rate:
59/1000 live births

Source: Population Reference Bureau Fact Sheet, 2014

Top 10 Causes of Death

1. Disaster* 66%
2. Stroke 5%
3. Cancer 3%
4. Ischemic Heart Disease 2%
5. Lower Respiratory Infections 2%
6. Diarrheal Disease 2%
7. Diabetes 2%
8. Tuberculosis 1%
9. Iron-deficiency anemia 1%
10. HIV/AIDS 1%

Source: GBD Compare (<http://viz.healthmetricsandevaluation.org/gbd-compare/>), 2010

*Forces of nature, war

Post-Earthquake Reconstruction

After the devastating earthquake in January 2010, CDC received one-time funding to reestablish and strengthen Haiti's public health system and address immediate public health needs. As part of these efforts, CDC is engaged with a wide range of activities from HIV and tuberculosis to cholera treatment and safe water. CDC's main partners include the Haitian Ministry of Health, Catholic Relief Services-AIDSrelief, Partners in Health, and local NGO, GHESKIO. They have developed seven interagency Public Health Legacy Goals: 1) eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV, 2) eliminate the threat of cholera, 3) eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis, 4) ensure a robust, sustainable, self-correcting public health system, 5) reduce the under-five mortality rate from vaccine-preventable diseases by 35%, 6) reduce maternal mortality by 30%, and 7) reduce the prevalence of TB by 25%.

Global HIV/AIDS

The Division of Global HIV/AIDS (DGHA) opened CDC's first office in Haiti in 2002 to support the Government of Haiti in addressing their HIV/AIDS epidemic. In 2003, under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), DGHA resources increased substantially to turn the tide against HIV/AIDS. CDC's focus in country has been to provide treatment and care of those who are already infected with HIV, particularly prevention of mother-to-child transmission, increase national laboratory capacity by building upon existing health care delivery systems and public health infrastructure. CDC also provides direct support to improve surveillance, epidemiology, and Health Management Information Systems with Haiti's Ministry of Health.



Field Epidemiology Training Program

The Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) works with ministries of health around the world to strengthen national and local public health systems and to address the severe shortage of skilled epidemiologists worldwide. The Haiti FETP has graduated 217 students who participated in specialized trainings to improve the capacity of Haitian public health leaders to respond to emergencies, better understand the situation of water and foodborne diseases in Haiti, perform nutrition assessments in the field, and conduct case investigations in conjunction with national immunization activities.

Safe Water

Access to safe water and sanitation are fundamental to public health. The National Directorate of Potable Water and Sanitation (DINEPA) was created to address challenges to and lack of regulations for the rural water sector in Haiti. Since its inception, DINEPA has established regional water and sanitation offices in each of Haiti's four main regions, and Rural Departmental Units in each of the country's 10 departments. To further support and strengthen this work, CDC developed and helped implement training for over 250 rural potable water and sanitation technicians who work in all rural areas of Haiti to inventory, rehabilitate, and disinfect rural water supplies.

Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Immunization is recognized as one of the most cost-effective public health interventions in the world. In Haiti, CDC has worked with partners and the Ministry of Health on a number of vaccine-related programs, from mass immunization of children for measles and rubella in 2012 to the cholera outbreak response after the earthquake. In 2013, Haiti's Ministry of Health launched a 2013-2022 national plan of action for the elimination of cholera in Haiti. Additional projects include improvements to the central vaccine warehouse and the addition of new and optimization of existing solar refrigerators in health facilities. CDC's work helped justify the introduction of new vaccines: pentavalent (the 5-in-1), rotavirus and anticipate pneumococcal next year.

Impact in Haiti

- Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV is provided to 87% of women in need (one of the highest rates in the world).
- The TB treatment success rate is now 84%.
- More than 83% of eligible children vaccinated against measles and rubella in 2013.
- Improved sanitation, clean water and cholera prevention have reduced cholera rates by 97% in 2014 from the first half of 2011.

For more information please contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

CDC-Atlanta

1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30333

Email: cgh@cdc.gov

Web: <http://www.cdc.gov/global>

For more country information: <http://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countries/haiti>

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